(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE *OF* THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Government does not regulate the air fares and airlines are free to determine the same in accordance with their commercial judgement and market forces.

Concessions in Air Fares to passengers

2191. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some private carriers are offering competitvely low fares for tickets booked in advance;

(b) whether the national air carriers will also extend such concessions to attract passengers;

(c) whether it is a fact that the occupancy rate has come down in national air carriers recently; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Airlines is already offering APEX fares, an advance purchase scheme on specified domestic sectors.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Air services from Madhya Pradesh to Southern States

†2192. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to provide air services from Madhya Pradesh to South India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether any proposal to reconnect Jabalpur with air services is under consideration; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Air Deccan has plans to operate a daily flight on the sector Delhi-Bhopal-Jabalpur and return in their Summer Schedule, 2005.

Besides, Indian Airlines/Airline Allied Services Limited have plans to take 6 ATR aircraft on dry lease basis. One of the services proposed to be operated by these aircraft is a 4 days-a-week service on the sector Delhi-Gwalior-Jabalpur-Delhi.

Bumper Super Saver Scheme of IA

2193. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether owing to the increased competition with private airlines, the Indian Airlines has taken a decision to introduce a scheme called Bumper Super Saver for attracting those passengers who fly frequently; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Indian Airlines introduced the Bumper Super Saver Scheme as a promotional scheme during the lean season, for a limited period of time.

(b) The Bumper Super Saver Scheme for Economy Class effective from 16th February, 2005 provides a 16 coupon ticket for Rs. 65,000/-, whereas the Executive Class offer introduced from 23rd February, 2005 provides for 16 coupon ticket for Rs. 1,00,000/- inclusive of all levies. The tickets purchased under the scheme are valid for travel for one year from the date

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.